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GENERAL
1775-

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[p.5]

N° 24) Charles Town 15 Decemr 1774.

My Lord

Since I had the Honour of writing to your Lordship Jointly with Sir. James Wright, I have receiv.ed your Lordship's Letters N° 13 & 14.

In my Letter N° 20, I acquainted your Lord.ship of my having gone to Georgia in Consequence of a Message sent to Sir James Wright and me by the Creek Indians about the beginning of July last purporting that they had put one Of the principal Murtherers to Death, by way of Satisfaction; which they were told by a Message from Mr Galphinshouse, was all that would be Expected; and therefore they were expected a Supply of Necessaries & open Trade as usual. The Governour had returned an Answer by the Indians who brought the Message, insisting upon the whole satisfaction stipulated with Emissaries in may, and had sent it away before my arrival in Georgia: but as I had some doubt of said Answer being faithfully Interpreted to the Indians, I determined upon sending a Circular Message by one of the Interpreters, to be delivered in the different / Parts of the Nation. The Measure pro.[p.6] duced many good Effects: when the Interpreter arriv.ed in the Nation he found as I had suspected, that Sir James Wright's answer had not been

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communicated; it was a Demand of Blood, and the Indian who carried it & to whom it had been explained would not venture to deliver it, neither would any white man remaining in the Nation read it, for fear of incurring the Resentment of the Relations of the Persons pitched upon: Their being disappointed in the Supply of goods which they expected, and our Silence filled them with fear and Jealousy and in Despair they were upon the point of falling upon our Frontier Inhabitants when they were relieved from the Anxiety by the Arrival of the Interpreter; he convened the head men & as the Governor's Answer & my Message were to the same Effect he delivered them both together. They discovered that they had been imposed upon and immediately determined upon giving the Stipulated Satisfaction, which being performed as far as possible, they set out for Savannah where all Differences were accommodated, in the Manner Submitted to your Lordship by Sir James Wright & me in our Joint Letter.

Mr Cameron agreable to his Instructions went into the Cherokee Nation about the beginning of September last, and having convened the principal chiefs at Chote, he explained to them Messages from / the Earl of Dunmore and me, respecting the Murther of Captain Russel and his party in Virginia. He found

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the Young People ripe for Mischief and ready to join the Shawnese & Western Indies. The Chiefs & Leading Men all tho extremely averse to a Rupture with us, had not supported their Authority and were falling into contempt. Mr Cameron in such circumstances saw the Necessity of spiriting up the Chiefs to resume and exert their Authority, and after many private Meetings and Conferences, prevailed upon them to give Satisfaction for the Murther complained of by my Lord Dunmore by putting one of the two persons concerned with the Shawnese in committing it to Death: the other found Means of escaping to the Chickasaw Nation but is proscribed and will certainly suffer when and wherever found by his Country men. This Execution was performed by the Hands of the principal Chiefs. Their Resolute & determined behaviour struck such Awe upon the Mutinous young People, that they immediately made their Submission and with strings of white Beads endeavoured to Appease their Leaders.

Mr Cameron had much Merit in the conducting this Business, having resolutely persevered altho' his Life was often threatned and in imminent Danger

The Report which prevailed of the Cherokees [28] having committed several Murthers before Mr Cameron

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reached the Nation proves groundless; and I have the strongest assurances from all the Cheifs of their pacifick and friendly Disposition which from the late Instances of their Justice I cannot doubt.

I am sorry to learn by the inclosed extract of a Letter from Mr. Charles Stuart, that the Chickasaws have lately committed some Murthers & Robberies upon the Ohio and Mississippi. I have written to them in the Strongest terms demanding Satisfaction with which I hope they will comply as the other greater Nations have done.

Virginia seems to be engaged in an Indian War with the Shawnese & Western Tribes said Indians are not considered as belonging to my Department. and I have no particular information upon this Subject except what I collect from the Newspapers

It gives me great pleasure to think that there is some prospect of a Regulation of the Indian Trade taking place. Sir James Wright has with small Variation adopted the same Instructions by which the Traders were governed when the Trade was entrusted to my Management Lieutenant Governour Bull of this Province has also approved of them, and I hope the other Governours will have no Objection, and as the execution

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of them is to be entrusted to the Officers ap-
:pointed by me in the Different Nations. The
Trade will be nearly upon the same footing
as when under the Direction of the Superin-
:tendants, and the clashing and confusion
which for several Years past have prevailed
will be prevented

I have the Honour of being with the
greatest Respect

My Lord

Your Lordships most obedient
and most humble Servant

John Stuart

The Rt Honble

The Earl of Dartmouth &c &c

Endorsed Charles Town So Carolina / 15th December (No 10)
1774 / Mr Stuart / (No 24) / Ry 27 Janry 1775. / (with
2 Inclosures.) / Two Inclosures. / Entd

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To Emistisiguo, Warrior of the Little Tallassies (Nº 11)
and to Neothlacho, second Man.

Friends & Brothers

Upon the first news which I received of the Murders committed by the Coweta People in Georgia, I sent a Talk to be delivered to you both by Mr Taitt, wherein I desired, that you would join your Endeavours to mine, to Restore Peace & friendship, between your Nation, & your White Brethern, you accordingly called together the Chiefs of the Abekas & Talliposses, and you sent me a White Wing, some white Earth and Tobaccos, as tokens of the Talks which you & I have had, at many Meetings: particularly at Pensacola, when Mr. Johnstone was Governor: The White Wing, Earth, & Old Tobaccos were delivered to Sir James Wright Governor of Georgia, which is the same as if they had been delivered to me. I have got them, & have Smoaked of the Tobaccos, I remmember the Talks, & have brought here the White Wing, which you gave me at Pensacola, I leave it at Savannah, that when the Path is cleared, and made Straight, you may Receive it again in Exchange for that which you Sent me

Both you Chiefs came down at my desire with Mr. Taitt to Savannah, and altho' you

received the Governors Talk before I saw you, yet I know what passed, and what was agreed upon by you & the Governour; which I then told you as I do now, that I approved of. We are not fond of spilling human Blood we therefore agreed to accept of the Moderate Satisfaction then proposed; for the Governors Talk & mine are the same. I see you have in part complied with what was then proposed, & that with Consent of the Chiefs of 26 Towns met in Counsel, Ostenaka the Leader of the Murderers has been Punished with Death since your Return; You know that further Satisfaction was agreed upon, & we Hope (p.17) that it will be Complied with / fully, that your Trade may again be Opened & all bad Talks buried for I long to meet your Head Beloved Men again in Friendship to Smoke the Pipe of Peace with them.

Headmen & Warriors of the Abekas Tallipooses & Lower Towns.

As you are wise men you must be Sensible, that Peace between you & us cannot be maintained without we Observe Treaties & Agreements and Render each other Strict Justice; you must also be Sensible that your Young Men have long been disorderly, and have paid no Regard to the Advice & Commands of their Chiefs, and that it is absolutely necessary to

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convince them that they must be punished for Violences & Murthers. I therefore hope & expect that the Moderate Satisfaction which we agreed to acquiesce in will be given by you & that you will put it in your Power to Relieve you, from the distress which you & your Familys must suf-fer for want of a Proper Supply of Necessaries, with Honour, Safety & Justice. I Observe with pleasure your Inclination to do justice by the Punishment inflicted on Miley at the Forks of Tomawtley who was principally Concerned in the murder of Three Whitemen at St Josephis Bay last October I do not doubt but you will go On & compleat what you have with so much Wisdom & Resolution begun

The Governor has shewn me your Talks to him by the Chassitaw King & his Answers, which you will also Consider as Coming from me: What-ever Talks you give for me send them to Mr Taitt who waits at Augusta to Receive & send them im-mediately to me.

To the Mortar

I received the Talk which you sent to Gover-nor Wright & me jointly: The part you acted towards the White People in the Nation when you first heard of the Murders which had been Committed was

very friendly & Entitles you to my acknowledgements & thanks. I doubt not but you will join
[p 15] your / Endeavours to mine to make up differences, and that you are convinced of the necessity of observing Treaties and doing Mutual Justice in Order to maintain Peace & Enable us with honour & Safety to supply you as usual.

I long much to see the Path Straight & clear that White People may Visit you again and that you & I may smoke the Pipe of Peace and drink the Beloved Drink together. I hold you fast by the Hand.

John Stuart (L S.)

[p 16] Endorsed Talks from the Superintendt / To the Headmen & Ruling / Chiefs of the Creek Nation / In Mr Stuarts of the 15th / Septr 1774 No. 24. / (1)
Dic.

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LI[illegible]SS

Abstract of a Letter from Charles Stuart Esqr. Deputy Superintendant of Indian Affairs dated. Mobille 15 Septemr. 1774. —

"Upon my Return to this place I found
"Two Fellows of the Ishickesaws who brought me
"a Letter from Mr. Mc. Intosh dated. 7 July and which
"had been left in the Ishoctaw Nation. He informs
"me that another party of the Breed had set out
"soon after the Return of Piga. Mingo. Tulewey in
"order to go to War against the Kickapoos, that
"they returned the 3 July with Ten white mens
"Scalps and a french Negro with Ten Horses.
"they said they had killed Ten French men
"who were killing & salting Buffalo Meat in
"some large Old Fields behind the Illinois &
"that they found the Negro & Horses near the
"Cherokee River. Mr. Mc. Intosh demanded the
"Negro and Horses with whatever else they had
"belonging to the White People whether French or
"English, but to no Purpose, for the Traders bought
"the Horses with Rum, althó he charged them not
"to do it at their Peril, as it would be encourag.
"ing the Indians to do it again. Mr. Mc. Intosh
"says that he was also informed by an Indian
"who returned a few days Ago from War, That

" one Duncan a Young Leader of the Ishickesaws
" who went to War the beginning of May last
" had also killed some white People at the Lead
" Mines near the Illinois & that he had taken
" a number of Horses & was Riding about the
" Woods there as if at Home; He farther says that,
" the Young fellows will not now pay any Re:
" spect to the Older Men That poor Captain Johnny
" was Stabbed to death on the Spot by a Young
" fellow, for telling him that he should not go
" about like a Mad man with a knife in his Hand,
" That they had threatened the Leader Paya Mat:
" taha & Several Others.

" I fear this Nation will soon be as bad
" if not worse, than the Creeks or any other, for they
" really are grown so very Insolent that there is no
[p.116] " bearing them, and / when any of them come down
" unless I give them every thing they ask for, they
" Return Dissatisfied & Say they were ill treated,
" and I had Rather and could Easier satisfy
" 500 Chactaws than 5 of them. Mr. Mc Intosh
" likewise writes that now they begin to follow
" the Example of the Creeks as much in their
" Insolence that he is of Opinion were we to
" have a War with the Creeks very few of them
" would join us, however Paya Mattaha continues

"firm and gives Strong Talks to the Chactaws
"not to make Peace with the Creeks which they
"say they never will till they are desired by
"the English, but I am sorry to learn that the
"Grand War Match when the Whole Chactaw Na-
"tion intended to sallie forth, has failed as usual,
"thro' Inward Disputes, however there are many Small
"Parties out"

Endorsed Abstract of a Letter from / Charles Stuart [A 18]
Esqre / Mobile 15 Septr 1774 / In Mr Stuarts of the /
15th Septr 1774 N. 24. / (2) / dr

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(N°. 16.)

Whitehall 1st. Febry 1776 [1.55]

Mr. Stuart.

Sir,

I have received your Dispatch of the 15th. December, & I am sorry to find by the Copy of Mr Stuarts Letter to You inclosed in it, that the Chickasaws have departed from their usual good Conduct, & have been guilty of the like Excesses as have been so long complained of in other Tribes in your Department. I have however hopes that the Regulations agreed upon by Sir James Wright & you, & which I make no doubt will be adopted by all the other Governors, will put the Trade upon so equitable a footing, & restrain the Traders from those practises which disgust / or provoke the Indians, that all future Violences will be prevented, & peace & harmony with the Indians be established upon firm Grounds [1.56]

It will therefore be your Duty to give every Assistance in your Power to the completion of this salutary plan, & to instruct your Officers to see the Regulations duly observed throughout your Department.

I am &c.a / Dartmouth

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(now) Endorsed Draft. to Mr Stuart / Whitehall 1st Febry

1775. / (No. 16.) / Entd Dispr.

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N° 25 /. Charles Town 3d January 1775. (n.s.91)

My Lord

I have the Honour of submitting to your Lordship such Intelligence as I have received from the different parts of the District since my last Letter of 15th ultimate (no 24)

During the Conferences with the Creek Indians at Savannah, it was discovered that a Mr Bryan of that Province, had, by giving Rum and other Presents, obtained from Seven or Eight leading Chiefs a Ninety nine years Lease of all the Land reserved by said Nation for hunting Ground within the Province of East Florida, in Consideration of receiving annually one hundred Bushels of Indian Corn if demanded. and as the Deed was put into the Governours hands it was produced at the Congress where all the Indians who had executed it were present. I did not fail to upbraid them for having contrary to their repeated promises and Agreements entered into a Negotiation of this sort with private Persons, and given away for such a trifling consideration, a very large Tract of Country, when upon every occasion they either absolutly refused, or with the utmost reluctancy ceded such small the necessary Parcells of Land as had been [p.160]

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asked of them by His Majestys orders, while they were receiving his presents and the greatest benefits under his Protection. The principal Chiefs expressed their Astonishment and disapprobation, and in severe Terms rebuked the Indians who had taken upon themselves to give away their Lands without the Consent of the Nation. They endeavoured to excuse themselves by alledging that they had been imposed upon by Mr Bryan, who pretended that the Deed was only a permission to occupy & keep some Cattle upon a small peice of Land situated near Pea Creek on the Point of East Florida. All the Chiefs insisted upon cancelling the Deed, and the Indians were accordingly permitted to tear their Names from it, which apparently gave much Satisfaction, and I considered that Matter as entirly over, but I have been lately informed by Sir James Wright, that Mr Bryan had intercepted the Indians upon their way home, and having made them Drunk prevailed with Twenty of them to execute a new Deed which he had prepared. [p. 41] Upon / receipt of this Intelligence I directed Mr Taitt to proceed directly to the Lower Creek Nation, to Counteract Mr Bryan, I begg leave to refer your Lordship to the inclosed Copy of Mr Taitt's Letter to me and likewise of Mr Samuel

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Thomas's to him, by which the bad conse-
-quences likely to result from Mr Bryan's be-
-haviour will appear.

The Practice of getting Titles to Lands from particular Indians for presents or Liquor and after-
-wards settling beyond the Established Boundary is very common in North Carolina & Virginia from which Provinces great Settlements are made by Vir-
-tue of such Titles. Governour Martin Issued a Proclamation ordering all Persons so settled to re-
-move, and I have also sent them repeated warn-
-ings but without any Effect, and I do not learn that there are any Laws of the said Provinces for Preventing this Evil, and that passed in Georgia, provides for the punishment of such Per-
-sons as shall purchase Lands from the Indians, but makes no provision against settling beyond the established Boundary Line. such Purchases and Settlements in right of them are perpetual-
-ly productive of Discontents in the Indian Na-
-tions and if not put a Stop to must / infalli- [162]
-bly embroil us with them; for they do not distinguish such irregularities of the back In-
-habitants from Acts of Government, especially as their repeated Complaints do not obtain them redress. I submit to your Lordship an Extract

of a Letter from Mr Cameron by which it ap-
pears that a Number of Persons from North
Carolina were in the Cherokee Nation negotia-
ting some such Purchase when said Letter was
written. The Example which I made of some
Offenders by Vertue of a particular Law of this
Province has effectually prevented any further At-
tempt of that Nature by any of our Back
settlers but a Law to remedy an Evil common
to all the Provinces and which endangers the
Peace of them all is much wanted, which I
humbly submit to your Lordship

I also submit to your Lordship Copy
of Mr Charles Stuarts Letter containing the lat-
est accounts from West Florida. The Check which
the Mortars Party of Creeks received from the
Chactaws will have a very good effect. They
were going to New Orleans to solicit the Me-
diation of the Spanish Governour to obtain
Peace from the Chactaws when they were at-
tacked, and I understand that a large Party
of the Lower Creeks were actually gone there
(263) upon the same Errand, but I hope to / frus-
trate their Attempt

The Chickasaws continue faithfull and
have refused the Solicitations of the Shawnese &

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Western Confederacy to Join them in their War
with Virginia and I shall neglect no means
in my Power of keeping them and the Chac-
-taws firm in our Interest I have the Honour
of being with the greatest Respect

My Lord

Your Lordship's

most obedient and most

humble Servant

John Stuart

The Right Hon^ble

The Earl of Dartmouth

Endorsed Charles Town So. Carolina / 3^d Janf 1775 / [h.64]
Mr Stuart. / (N° 25) / Rd 6^th Febf. / Four Inclo-
-sures. / Entd

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Flint River 10 December 1774 [N65]

Sir

When I came up to Flint River, I was told of Mr. Bryan's following the Indians and promising them great Presents, I hear that he has again got some of the Indians that were in Savannah to give him some Land I can: not learn whether it is the same Land as he had got from them before or if it is another Body of Land, but he sent for the Indians to his Plantation, & was to give them great Presents and Rum & those that had passed were sent for back and he has got some to go with him to Run out the Lands that were given him, and one of the Indians after drinking Rum at Bryan's House was taken sick and died, and his Relations now say that had he not gone back that he would have now been alive and blame the White People for his Death, which makes me send you word as Soon as I can. And as to the Regulation that no Indians should be Employed as Factors to Trade it is already broke through in the Nation Mr. Timothy Barnard has let the White Boy Boson and Escott all have goods & Ammunition: all the Louisiana Villains are as bad as Ever & when James Mc Queen came up they had

almost Killed him only he ran off & Saved himself. The Young Lieutenant is gone in a Canoe to look for the Spaniards to get Ammunition from them; and as to Hownachta the Surviving Murderer he has sent word that he is Coming to [illegible] the upper / Trading Path to Kill White men & has got Three more Indians to join him & setts out this Moon, So that I can have no Opportunity of sending a Party to Kill him as the Towns are at Present all empty the Indians being out a Hunting. All the Indians seem to be very much against having their Land given away without the Consent of the Whole Nation and I am certain it will Cause you much trouble when you come up, as they give me much trouble already. It will Still be worse in the Spring when they all Come in from Hunting. You will please to Pay the Man who brings this Letter as I have made no Agreement with him.

I am Sir

Your most Humble / Servant

(signed) Samuel Thomas

Interpreter

David Taitt Esqr.

[illegible] Endorsed Samuel Thomas / Interpreter for the Lower / Creek Nation. / to / David Taitt Esqr. / 10th. Decemr 1774 / In Mr Stuarts (Nr 25) of / 3d Janry 1775. / (1)

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE [illegible]

. Mobille 12 December 1779. [p.69]

Sir

I have the Pleasure of informing you that every Thing in my Department is quiet and that the War between the Creeks & Chactaws is in full Vigour, The former are very Insolent this way, and Pass and repass in large Bodies and all their Bussiness is to Kill Cattle, which is very hard upon the Poor Inhabitants who complain much and wish you to remedy this Evil if possible

The Mortar of the Creeks and Tipoye were on their way to Orleans as I am informed, to try to get some Ammunition from the Spaniards but in passing the Plantation of Mr. Strothers on the Opposite Side of this Bay they were fired upon by the Chactaws, The Creeks were 85 and the Chactaws only 30. Six Creeks were Killed & Seven wounded amongst the latter was the Mortar, who was Shot through the Body, and through the Thigh, it is thought he'll not survive it & some say he's dead. The Chactaws lost only four, & would have beat the Enemy had their Ammunition not failed them; they were obliged to Fly & the Creeks thinking that Mr. Strothers had some of them still concealed in his Houses fired Shot, and lighted bom bolbs & Pitch Pine upon the Houses which set them on fire and

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[p7v] No. Whole to ashes was soon / reduced, by which the poor Man lost all he had & with great difficulty sav-ed his life & that of his Wife & Children, if they do not get a Check for their Behaviour this way, they will Ruin all the poor Inhabitants some of whom are resolved to Oppose them rather than be Plundered.

I am sorry to inform you that Piya Houma the Red Captains Nephew is killed by the Creeks he behaved well and was deserving of the Notice you took of him, he was deserted by his Party and advanced singly & fell: There is nothing new from the Chicka-saws, but that some of the Shawnese have been there lately I suppose tampering with them but without Success and upon their going away met two Chac-taws who they killed & Scalped at which the Chicka-saws were highly incensed.

It is said the Creeks want to make a Peace with the Chactaws

I am with Respect / Sir

Your most Obed.t

Humble Servant

(signed) Charles Stuart

John Stuart Esq.r

[p7r] Endorsed Charles Stuart Esq.r / to / The Superintendant / Mobille 12. Dec.r 1774 / In Mr. Stuarts (N.o 25) of / 8.d Janry 1775. / (2)

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Augusta 17 December 1774. (Nº 93)

Sir

Your two Letters of the 4 Instant came to hand yesterday and shall in Obedience to your or. ders set out this morning for the Lower Creek Na. tion, I likewise received the inclosed Letter by Ex. press last night, and have this morning sent a Copy to His Excellency Sir James Wright. Mr. Bryan must certainly be mad and am afraid his Con. duct with the Indians will be productive of more Trouble to this place, I at first thought it only a Bravado to perplex the Governor but now see that he is in earnest and will certainly be the Cause of an Indian War; It will be im. possible for me to see any of the Creek Headmen untill the Spring as they are all out in the Woods. but I will take every prudent Method possible to prevent the Principal Chiefs agreeing to any Ces. sion of their Lands as soon as they can be got together John Kinnard came here yesterday and made Oath of having met Two Mustees with Four. teen Horse Load of Goods Ammunition &c.a between Oguechie & Occoni last Sunday on their way to Tomawtley & that they told him that they Bought the Goods at Mr. Galphins: Mr Barnard is to inclose the Affidavit to Governor Wright; altho it will be

impossible to Prosecute these people of Silver Bluff
[1776] it will Serve to shew his Excellency how they made
good their Story which they told the Indians at Savannah viz^t that they would Trade as they pleased
& pay no Regard to any Regulations. The Mortar
is wounded in a Battle with the Cherokees; it is
said he received three Wounds in his Belly I wish
it may carry him out of this World.

I am doubtfull that we will have a more
serious Affair this Spring than last for if the Creeks
do begin again they will certainly carry their cruelty
as far as Possible, and I am humbly of Opinion that
Troops will be wanted to prevent any mischief be-
ing done in this Province as the Indians are well
acquainted with the Strength of it and seeing only
a few Inhabitants of Savannah making a Show
to represent Soldiers they will imagine that no
Soldiers will come here, so that I think it would
be necessary to Provide for the Worst. —

I am / Sir

Your most Obt. Hble / Servant

(signed) David Taitt

John Stuart Esqr.

[1776] Endorsed David Taitt / 17 Decemr. 1774. / to / John
Stuart Esqr. / In Mr Stuarts (N° 25) of / 3d. Janry 1775. / (3)

Abstract of a Letter from Alexander Cameron Esqr. 17th. Decr. 1774. [A-77]

Soon after my Return from Chote, a comp.-pany of Gentlemen from North Carolina visited that Part of the Cherokee Nation, but with what view I cannot affirm; altho' I suspect them to be Land-Jobbers. One of them is Richard Henderson Esquire one of the Assistant Judges of that Pro.-vince, the names of the Others I have not heard but I am informed there were four or Five Co.-lonels of them. They found no Indians at Home but the Little Carpenter who was perparing for his Journey hither. But those Gentlemen pre.-vailed on him to go with them to their Coun.-try. I make not the least doubt but he will visit you before his Return to the Nation and inform you of whatever proposals have been made to him. I think he will not attempt to Trans.-act any Matter of moment with them without first Consulting you as well as the Chiefs of his Nation.

Endorsed Abstract of a / Letter from Alexander Cameron Esqr. / to / John Stuart Esqr. / 17 Decemr. 1774 / In Mr. Stuarts (No 25). of / 3d. Janry 1775. / (4) / Dr. [A-80]

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(N°. 17.) Whitehall March 3d 1775 [p.117]

Mr. Stuart.

Sir,

I have received your Dispatch N°25 by the Mail of the January Packet, and laid it before the King.

The Steps, you took for defeating Mr. Bryan's very sinister Attempt to obtain a Cession of Lands from the Creeks, appear to be very proper, & I hope will have the effect to prevent Our being again involved in any disagreeable Discussion with those Indians, should Mr. Bryan's Temerity draw their Resentment upon him.

The want of a proper Law, in all the Colonies for preventing Settlements on the Indian Lands, is Much to be lamented; but tho' the Necessity of such a Law has been often represented, none of the Assemblies, except that of South Carolina, have been prevailed upon to adopt such a Measure, and the present is not a time for introducing a general Regulation [p.118] by the only Authority which is competent to give it effect in all the Colonies.

I am very glad to find the Suspicions You had some time ago entertained of the

Fidelity of the Chickasaws are removed, & that they have given so good a Proof of their Attachment in regarding Solicitations of the Shawanese.

The intended Application of the Creeks, to the Spanish Governor of New Orleans, to mediate a Peace between them and the Chactaws, if it had taken effect, might have been attended with very serious Consequences, and you cannot exert your Influence over the Indian Nations in your Department, in a way more advantageous to the King's Service, than in preventing any Intercourse / between them and

[p. 119] the Subjects of foreign States.

I am &c.

Dartmouth.

[p. 120] Endorsed Draft to Mr. Stuart. / Whitehall March 3d. / 1775 ... / (No. 17.) / Encl. Dup.

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(N°. 26)

Ry 2d May.

Charles Town So. Carolina [A.177]

28th March 1775.

My Lord,

I am to acknowledge the honour of your Lordship's Dispatches N° 14 & 15.

I have the pleasure to acquaint your Lordship that by the latest Advices from my Deputies & Agents in the different Indian Nations, the disposition of the Indians appears to be Pacific.

Genl Gage in his last letter acquaints me that ill-affected People in those parts had been endeavouring to poison the minds of the Indians of the 6 Nations and other Tribes with jealousies, in order to alienate their affection from His Majesty, & to weaken their confidence in & dependence on His Protection. I lost no time, after receiving the General's letter, in writing to all the Agents & Deputies, to put them upon their guard against any attempts of the like nature to debauch the Indians in their respective Districts – For there are people in the Southern Provinces as ill inclined to Govern^t as any to the northward. I beg leave to assure your Lordship that nothing in my power shall be omitted to keep all the Indians firm in their love & attachment to the King, & in a temper

to be always ready to act in His Service.

I know of nothing so likely to interrupt
[1770] and disturb our tranquility with the Indians as the incessant attempts to defraud them of their Land by clandestine purchases, notwithstanding my repeated admonitions to all the Indians to guard them against such frauds, yet the temptation of a few Presents never fails to get the better of them. I beg leave to submit to your Lordship, Copies of Letters from Mr Cameron, containing an acct of the proceedings of a Mr Henderson from North Carolina; & I have rec.d a Letter from Govr Martin of N. Carolina upon the same subject acquainting me that he has issued a Proclamation for apprehending the said Henderson & his associates. In my last I submitted to you the danger, which in my opinion will probably attend this abuse if not put a stop to.

Mr Thomas my Deputy for managing the affairs of the small Nations on the Mississippi, has made repeated Representations to me that his established fund of £600 for his own and Interpreters Salary & all Contingencies is too small & praying an Augmentation of £150 sterling a year as the number of visiting Indians, as well from the Spanish as our side of the Mississippi,

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creates a very considerable expence in Presents & Provisions more than his fund is sufficient to provide for/ I could not take upon me to determine [A.1793] in this matter without first submitting it to yr Lordship. The friendship of these Tribes would be of great service to the Settlement on the Mississippi in case of a rupture between the two Crowns. I know them to be very importunate beggars, & the competition between the Spanish & British Inhabitants for their friendship renders them more difficult to be satisfied. I wait for your Lordships Instructions on this head.

The Chactaws continue to prosecute their war with the Creeks vigorously, & by the latest advices from the Creek Nation, it appears that the latter are disposed to maintain Peace with us.

I am &c.ª

John Stuart

Inclosures

Copy of Letter from Mr. Cameron
dated 23d Febr 1775.

Do 2d March 1775.

Lochaber 23d. February 1775. [p.181]

Sir

Late last night a Messenger from the Great Warriour Arrived here, and hearing of an Opportunity which Offers to Morrow for Charlestown, I cannot Omitt the Pleasure of writing to You. He informs me that he with the overhill Chiefs were to sett off in two days to the long Island on Holston River, in Consequence of a Message sent to him by the Little Carpenter who Arrived there a few days before, on his Return from Virginia where he went I suppose Round about from North Carolina to Demand the Presents which were promised to him by Col. Donalson. at Parting after Running the Division line, and that the Presents at length were granted, and sent up to Holston's River to be distributed to them. But I am informed that every Individual almost in that Settlement are preparing to go, so that the most Part of them will I doubt not Return dissatisfyed, he informs me also, that Nanitaugah a Brother to Nantaugah who was killed last Fall in Tilliceowayah (or Mouth of Tillicco River) Returned from the Shawnese Nation where he had been for some Time Past. The fellow he was insensed much when he found that his

C.O. 5:76

Brother was killed, He Repaired to Settices, and after consulting with the Inhabitants of that Town and Chilhowie, he Returned to Tellicowalah, and there killed One of the first three, who shot at, and Wounded Nantuyah first, Went in afterwards to the Town House, where the People were dancing, with his Gun and Tomahawk full of Blood, to see if any Person there would resent what he had done; but finding the contrary, he went off to Settices, where he is protected. The fellow whom he killed was Singular in his good behaviour to white People and One of the best Singers in the Nation, but he is of the same Family with Nantuyah (the Point) I fancy there will be no more said of him and let Nantuyah alone he being a Resolute Rascal.

William Emery who has been likewise to the Northward says that the Shawnese are not yet Satisfyed, and that they intend to Send in the Bloody Hatchet this Spring to their Brothers the Cherokees to see if they will join them against the Virginians.

Big Sawney is here at Present and he informs me that four young fellows of Senecca had been at hunting towards Ogitahee, and the Deer being getting Scarce near their Camps.

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they went off with an intent to Stay out 5 or
6 Days, and left their Women to / keep Camp, but [Dr. 1837]
not returning in double that Space & having but lit-
-tle Ammunition with them, the Women sent two
Young men to look for them, who after much
search found an old Camp, with two Mens fresh
Sculs which they supposed, to be the Sculs of
two of the Missing. It is still probable they may
be Alive, but they Suspect they are not; that
they are either killed by the White People, or
Creeks, they Suspect the latter Most.

I am informed that Richard Pearis is
getting the Land granted by the Cherokees to
himself and Son Surveyed into small Parcels
in Order to sell it, to different Persons, He in-
-tends to Avail himself of all the Interest he
can from the Indian Land in Opposition to
all Parties. I am informed that he gives out
the whole Track of 250.000 Acres in his Sons
Name and that he got Mr Edward Rutledge
to make out Titles in his Sons Name for the
above Quantity of Land at Ninty Six Courts,
which he has Signed himself, or got a few
Indians who were with him at that Time to Sign.

The Party who went after the Elk was
disappointed, and could not come up with him

he joined a party who went out from Chilhowie to War; If he has Success and Return, he will [illegible] not be hurt. as I am told the people of Chilhowie will Stand by him, The Great Warriour sent me Word that he would not Choose that I would ven-ture over the Hills for some Little Time, as Nanie-tuyah threatens to take my Hair if he can, He threatens the Terrapin very much also - I am with the greatest Respect -

Sir

(&c)

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from / Mr Cameron 23d feby 1775 / In Mr Stuarts (N° 26) of / 28th March 1775. / (1.)

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Lochaber 2d March 1775. [p.105]

Sir

I had the pleasure of writing to you on the 23d Ulti: but was disappointed in the Conveyance which at that Time Offered, I send it now by a Neighbour, One Robt. Black by whom I send this Also.

I have been Credibly informed that the Presents sent to the long Island on Holston River, were sent there by Col: Richard Henderson One of the Assistant Judges of North Carolina, and that the Cherokees have Ceded him a large Track of Land in lieu of them, on the Northwest of Holston, and that several families from the Frontiers of North Carolina are already gone to Settle there by Virtue of the great Encouragement given by Mr. Henderson to any Person who will become a Settler on that Purchase.

I had a Letter from Joseph dated the 5th Ultimate and on the 7th following the Great Warriour with the other Chiefs were to set out for Holston as he himself sent me word but they did not know but the Presents were sent them from Virginia agreeable to Promise.

Col: Donaldson last Fall sent a Message to the Little Carpenter that if he would go in to

(p 106) See him he would go with him to Williamsburg/and Endeavour to get the Presents that he formerly promised for his People, but I adversed him against it, and told him over & Over - never to Answer any Message from any Person in the Different Provinces without first acquainting myself of it, as those People intended nothing but to defraud him and his Nation of their Lands. He then Promised to be here in a few Days, But Mr. Henderson, as I wrote to you Sir last fall, with a whole Party of Colonels went over the Hills a few days after I Returned, They met the Little Carpenter alone at home, and Prevailed with him to go into North Carolina, where they Baited him I Suppose with a Bribe.

When I was last over the hills, I Repeatedly Cautioned them never to listen to any Talk Respecting to Land unless to their Father or some other Person (sic) Authorized by the Great King, which they all promised faithfully to Observe, but you know Sir, the instability of those People. But when they sett off for Holston it seems they knew nothing that such Purchase was intended, so that I am Possitively sure, they are imposed upon.

I am likewise informed that Mr. Henderson blames Mr. Pearis very much for giving up his Claim to the Land which he Purchased from

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[A.187]

the / Indians, and that no law Existing can divert him of his Purchase, and that the Kings Procla-mation cannot debar any person from purchas-ing what Land they Think Proper off the In-dians, I shall send off over the Hills to Morrow Morning and shall let you know the Truth of the Matter as Soon as Possible, I am most Respectfully-

Sir,

&c

[A.188]

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from / Mr Cameron / date (one) 2d March 1775 / In Mr Stuarts (No 26) of / 28th. March 1775. / (2) / dr

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N° 27) Charles Town 20th may 1775 [n.239]

My Lord

I have now the Honour of acknowledging the receipt of Your Lordships Despatches N° 16 & 17, which a tedious and violent Indisposition prevent.ed my doing by the last Packets.

As it is my duty so it will give me the greatest pleasure, to give every Assistance in my power, in Carrying the Regulations agreed upon at Savannah into Execution; and as I have no Reason to doubt of the Other Governors adopt.ing the same plan, I hope it will greatly con.tribute to maintain in the Indian Tribes their present good & Freindly Disposition

By Intelligence from all Parts of the District the Indians are disposed to be quiet. The Creeks in Compliance with the Treaty concluded at Savan.nah last October, have delivered up thirteen fugi.tive Negroes to Mr Taitt, and seem determined to fullfill all their Engagements. They complain much of a Scarcity of goods, particularly arms and Am.(p.240) munition, which I imagine is in a great Measure owing to the Nonimportation agreement. Their war with the Chactaws renders them the More sensible of this Want, and Multiplys their Demands upon me

A Lower Creek Chief called Escouchabee is

now at Havannah accompanied by some young People from the Loweta Town, he got a passage in one of the Spanish fishing vessels which frequent the point of Florida. several Indians have undertaken to learn & acquaint me, with the Bussiness & result of the visit. The persons principally concerned in the Murthers in Geor: gia were his Near Relations and he is sup: posed not to have been entirly unconcerned in that Affair - -

The Chactaws and Chickesaws appear to be very well disposed, and Mr Camerons Letters represent the Cherokees as perfectly Attached to His Majesty's Interest

I have the Honour of being with the greatest Respect

My Lord

Your Lordship's

Most obedient and

Most humble Servant

John Stuart

The Right Hon^ble

The Earl of Dartmouth, &c: &c:

[2202] Endorsed Charles Town So: Carolina / 20th May 1775 /

Mr Stuart / (N° 27) / Rd 5th July / Ent.d

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N° 29) — .

Saint Augustine 27 July 1775 (p.269)

My Lord —

. The inclosed Letter from Mr Drayton covering a Narrative of his Transactions & Concern with Mr Bryan, in his Attempt to Negotiate a Cession of Land from the Creek Indians, I begg leave to submit to your Lordship.

I hope your Lordship will be persuaded that I took every step in my Power to render Mr Bryans views abortive, and that in consequence the Indians in Council have declared that they disclaim the Cession and will not consent that any Person shall settle upon their Land in Virtue of the lease obtained by him.

From my long acquaintance with Mr Drayton, I think him incapable of imposing upon your Lordship by a miss-representation / of the Transaction, as [p.270] he has always born the Character of a Person of Honor & Candor; I shall not presume to Censure or Approve his Conduct, that being submitted to far Superior Judgement; I have the Honor of being with the utmost Respect

My Lord / Your Lordships
most obedient and
most humble Servant
John Stuart

The Right honble
The Earl of Dartmouth &c.

[p.272] Endorsed St. Augustine 27th July 1775. / Mr. Stuart / (N°. 29) / Rd 29th Septr / (2 Inclosures) / Entd.

St Augustine July 14th. 1775. [1273]

Dear Sir,

Having lately come to the Knowlege, that His Majesty's Ministers did not see in a favourable Light the Concern I had with Mr. Bryan in his late Transactions with the Creek Indians; & being conscious of the Integrity of my Intentions in the little Part, which I had in that Affair, I have thought proper to draw up a just State of the Case, in Hopes that it may have the Effect of clearing me from Censure.

As this matter comes very properly within your Department, & as I have likewise had the Pleasure of being long known to you; I send you a Copy of that State of the Case; intreating you, from your knowlege both of the Circumstances & of my own Character, that you will signify your Opinion of the whole to Lord Dartmouth; in Order, that I may be relievd from the Imputation of not having acted in this Affair consistently with my Duty to His Majesty, and the Public Advantage; an Imputation, which I think by no Means due to my Conduct; at least if it be considered with Regard to my Intentions. I am, dear Sir,

Your most obedient humble

Servant

Wm Drayton

J. Stuart Esqr

C.O.5:76

(1276) Endorsed In the Steuarts (N° 29) / of 27th. July 1775./

(1)

[July 14. 1775]

[N 277. N.Y. only]

About three years ago being in a Bookseller's Shop in Charles Town, I was accosted by Mr. Jona-than Bryan, who at that Time was personaly un-known to me; I had indeed seen him once or twice before, but at such long Intervals of Time, that he was entirely beyond my Recollection. I knew him to have been an old Acquaintance of my Father's, of my Grandfather's, & Uncle's, (the late & pre-sent Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina); but the Age, at which I went abroad, & the Duration of my Absence, had not given me an Opportunity of being acquainted with him, before he took up his total Re-sidence in Georgia.

In the Course of Conversation I made some Inquiries of him concerning the late ceded Lands in that Province. He then took me aside, & told me there was an Opportunity through his Means of adding as valuable a Tract to this Province; that the Indians were willing to yield it up to him in Consideration of an old Acquaintance & of some Presents; that he had not any personal Interest at Home, by which he could hope to get that Cession confirm'd by Government; & that if I could procure such a Measure, he was willing to admit me to a Share of the Ad-vantage resulting from it, which should not cost me above £100, the whole Expence, as he thought, not being

likely to exceed 3 or 400 £. – I replied, that neither could I boast of much Acquaintance in England of sufficient Influence to assist such a Scheme, but that I thought, he had better wait upon Governor Grant on his Return, then soon expected from Eng-land, & lay his Proposals before him.– He said, that he wish'd not to have the Matter pass thro' Gover-nor Grant's Hands; that he knew him so well, as to think he would insist on very high Terms, & make, as he express'd it, a hard Bargain with him.– I then told him, if the measure was practicable, & he would give me Leave to assure Doctor Turnbull of a Share, if it succeeded, I would learn of that Gentle-man, whether he would undertake to push it at home; that the Dr. was a considerable Settler in this Province, & had besides an extensive Acquaint-ance with People in Power, both which might con-tribute to the Success of his Application – Mr. Bryan signified his Concurrence with this Proposal, and nothing farther then pass'd.

On my Return to East Florida I acquaint-ed Dr. Turnbull with these Particulars; & farther, that there appear'd a Probability of Mr. B's going on good Grounds, as Mr. Stuart, the Superintendant of Indian Affairs had told me, that the Indians possessing those Lands, (which I understood to lye

contiguous to the Western Boundary agreed to by them), inhabited only a few scattering Villages, & wished to be receivd into the Body of their Nation who were equaly inclind to adopt them.

Dr Turnbull approvd the Scheme; said, that it was in Idea on his first Plan of settling here; & that he was particularly desird by the late Mr George Grenville, one of his Partners, to pay Attention to procuring some of the Indian Lands; & that on his going to England, which he intended / soon, he would (Ch:279 p.3 only) readily sollicit in Person for the completion of this Affair. Here it rested.

On the Appointment & expected Arrival of Mr Tonyn to this Government, I informd Mr B. of it by Letter, & of Dr Turnbull's Concurrence, & desird that he would come down with his Proposals to the Governor. This Letter by one from Mr B. (a Copy of which is subjoind), appears to have been dated in Febry 1774. I kept no Copy; & not think-ing that the Contents were of much Consequence, did not charge my Memory with them so far, as to be answerable for the whole. The above, however, I think was the Purport.

In November following I receivd a Letter from Mr B., the first on the Subject (of which the Copy is subjoind); & returnd an Answer by the

C.O.5:76

Man, who brought it; acquainting Mr. B, that I could say Nothing particular on the Subject of it, 'till I I had had a farther Conversation with him; inviting him to come to Augustine to meet Dr. Turnbull & me for that Purpose. & desiring that 'till proper Measures could be concerted in Order to assist the Confirmation of his Agreement by Government at Home, that he would make no Stir about it; as some Difficulties and Obstructions to its Success might otherwise be raisd.

Of this Letter likewise I kept no Copy; but to the best of my Recollection the above was the Sum of the Contents. However since this Affair has been agitated, a Friend of mine in Carolina wrote me [p. 280 ... Word, / that he had applied to Mr. B. to see my two Letters; that he had obtaind them from him, & that he should keep them in Order to be produc'd, as they would sufficiently justify me, if my Conduct relative to the Transaction should ever be question'd... Mr. Lynch is the Gentleman, who is now absent from that Province.

This is the Sum total of what pass'd between Mr. B. & myself relative to those Lands. I have been perhaps too prolix in my Narration; but it was in Order to insert every Circumstance, however minute, from Beginning to End.

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Soon after receiving Mr B's Letter above-mentioned, Governor Tonyn informed me by Letter, that Sir James Wright had represented to him, that B's pretended Lease was a Fraud & Imposition on the Indians; that it was likely to produce ill Consequences, as they disavowed it; he inclosed to me a Copy of that Lease, & desired to know the most effectual Steps to be taken by Law to counteract B's Design. I immediately waited upon his Excellency; & having first very candidly & ingenuously related all the above Circumstance, in Order to exculpate myself from B's ill Intentions, (tho' I had Reason to think that my Name had not, nor would be brought into Question, as little & at such Intervals having passed between us, & no Mention of my being a Party being either in the Lease or in any written Agreement) I proceeded to advise the Governor to the legal Measures, which might be persued against Mr. B., considered as a Delinquent [Page 128 not of only] on the Occasion. Here ends the State of the Fact.

I beg Leave to add a few Remarks on my Conduct in the whole Affair, which may tend to set both that & my Intentions in a more favourable View, than they at present seem to appear in to His Majesty's Ministers.

The private Company, at that Time lately authorizd by Government to make a Settlement on a Tract granted them near the Ohio, afforded me Room to think, that on certain Conditions others of His Majestys Subjects might obtain the same Permission elsewhere. I was farther confirmd in this Idea by the Information from Dr Turnbull, concerning Mr Grenville's Charge, who at that Time was in Administration.

From Mr B's Conversation with me I saw in no other Light, than by Permission from Government, his Design of treating with the Indians. He applied to me purposely, because he had not personal Interest at Home to forward this Design. This proves, whatever were his future Intentions, that his original Pretence to me was to obtain the Royal Sanction to his Undertaking; & that he did not expect, or propose to enjoy the whole of the ceded Land, farther appeard to me from his talking of Govr Grants making a hard Bargain with him.

My Idea then was no other than this; that in Consideration of / the Influence exercisd with the Indians by Mr B., & the Expences attending his Exertion of it, on the Cession of the Land to this Province by extending the Western Line into their Country, Government would allow him a certain Proportion

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or separate Tract of the whole; of which he should reconvey a Part to us, who had assisted him in forwarding the Measure.

So far from thinking myself culpable in such case, I conceivd that tho' I should reap some personal Advantage to myself particularly, yet the Province would eventualy be benefited much more by such an Accession of better Lands, than were now within its acknowlegd Bounds, & by the Prospect of a speedy & numerous Addition of Settlers; I conceivd likewise, that this Method of conducting the Matter thro' a private Channel would be a considerable Saving to Government; as on a Public Treaty it was probable the Indians would demand a larger Sum, than the Value of 15 or 20,000 Acres of Land granted to the Individuals conducting it; & who being possessid of some Property would immediately have led the Way to other Settlers by cultivating their own Share.

From the general Terms of Wm. B's Conversation with me I knew not the Particulars, nor the Extent of the proposed Cession. I apprehended it to be only of that Part call'd the Apalachè old Fields & Alachua Settlement near St. John's River.

/From the Shortness of that only Conversation with Wm. B, & my small Acquaintance with him, (pros. 17 July)

from the Interval between that & my Letter to him in Febry, & his to me in November, it must appear probable that I did not press the Matter, nor know all the Steps he seems to have been taking in the mean Time.

From the Candour & Ingenuousness, which I shewd in immediately acquainting the Governor with all the above Particulars, when the Affair appeard in a criminal Light, & before I was calld upon or even known to be privy to any Part of it; from my Readiness in issuing legal Process against B; from a Consideration of all the above Circumstances; & lastly from the Character which I flatter myself I have establishd with all that know me, for Honour & Veracity; I hope that this Representation of my every Concern in this Affair, which I avow before God to be true, will set my Conduct in a more favourable Light; & that if it does not exculpate me from the Imputation of having committed an Error, it will at least relieve me from Censure of Guilt.

Wm Drayton

July 1775.

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Copy of Jonathan Bryan's Letter to W. D. [Pr 284 p. 8 of orig.]

Sir,

Since I had the Pleasure of seeing you in Charles Town, & since observing the Contents of your Letter dated in Feb'y last, I have obtain'd from the Creek Indian Head Men a Lease of a large Body of Land specified within Boundaries of the Government of East Florida, but within the Indian Line prescribed by Treaty to them, by a Lease for 99 years, tho' I might & still may have from them an absolute Grant or Conveyance of those Lands. This Lease I left in their Hands to be publicly shewn to their People in all their Towns for the Approbation of the whole Nation, to prevent any future Dispute about my Title to those Lands; which was accordingly done to their Satisfaction and they sent me Word by their own People, that the Lease should be return'd by the first safe Conveyance to my Hands. But the late Disturbances in their Nation prevented my receiving the Lease as soon as was intended. However at their late Treaty with the Governor at Savannah, he, by what Means I will not say, got the Lease out of their Hands & by Menaces & Threats of stoping their Trade & their Fear of my being put to great Trouble, tore off their

Seals & left the Lease in the Governors Hands. Thus what they tell me; but assured me that my right to that Land did not lye in that Bit of Paper but in their Hearts, & that they would renew the Lease, whenever I would, which they have accordingly since done. I am now on my Way to view those Lands in Company with some Gentlemen, Tom Grey & two Indians, & if possible to find some navigable River fit for the Entrance of Vessels. As to Particulars you may expect to hear from me after my Return. This may be made a great Acquisition to East Florida, & the whole Indian Trade may be carried on from one of these Rivers. I should be glad to have a Conference with you & Dr Turnbull upon this Head, but have neither Time nor Convenience & in this Place to add, but conclude with Esteem &c

Jonath. Bryan./

Mr Williamson's Low. Pen. 23 Novr 1774./

[p. 296] Endorsed In Mr Stuart's (No. 29) of / 27th July 1775./

(2) / dr

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[p.307]

N° 28) Saint Augustine 21 July 1775

My Lord

Since my Letter of 20 May N° 27 I have not been honoured with any of your Lordships Commands

About the time that my last Letter was written I had information from several Friends of an Intention in the Leaders of the Opposition in Carolina to seize my person; to prevent my making use of my Influence with the Indian Tribes in the Southern Department to counteract their Views, in case any Orders I had already received or might receive should render my doing so necessary for the good of His Majesty's Service; and in Order to give a Colour for their doing so, a Report was propagated every where thro out the Province, that I had sent to Call down the Cherokee and Catawba Indians; which so irritated the People as to render my Friends apprehensive that my person was in danger. At the same time it was given out that the Negroes were immediatly to be set free by Government, and that Arms were to be given them to fall upon their Masters. As Nothing can be more alarming to the Carolinians than the Idea of an Attack from Indians and Negroes, the Leaders of the diss.

[p.308]

affected Party easily carried into execution their plan of Arming the people and giving such a turn to their Disposition as might favour their Views, which were to receive the Sanction of a Provincial Congress to meet the first of June.

Altho I was then extremly ill and confined to my bed an Idea that my falling into their hands might prove detrimental to his Majesty's Service determined me to remove to Georgia, which I undertook and arrived there about the beginning of June. I begg your Lordships Permission to submit the inclosed Copies of my correspondence with the Committee of Intelligence (as they stile themselves) and of three other Letters, which will show your Lordship their Intentions, and how Narrowly I escaped falling into the hands of an incensed Mob at a time when my State of Health rendered me very incapable of bearing rough usage. My Family & Property are still in their power, the Latter they threaten to confiscate, and I anxiously wish the former from Amongst them, altho I hope their Sex and Innocence will entitle them to mild Treatment from a people Amongst whom they have lived so long Respectably. I begg Leave to Assure your Lordship that no Consideration shall induce me to Abandon the

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trust reposed in me. The Persecution I met with, is not for anything I have done but for what I may do . .

. My Intelligence from every part of the / Dis. (p. 209)
trict represents the Indians as extremly pacifick and well Disposed -- In the Cherokee Nation two Persons employed to carry Letters from Virginia were Killed near their Towns, Mr Cameron de. manded Satisfaction which the Ruling Chiefs consented to give and the Murtherers will Cer. tainly be brought to Justice. From the Creek Nation we have Intelligence that a party was actually set out for the Cherokee Towns, to com. pleat the Satisfaction Stipulated by the Treaty of Savannah by putting to Death the two Mur. therers Houmachita & Sophia who had found Means of Escaping thether. The inclosed Abstract of a Letter from Mr Taitt to me respecting Escot. chabee's Intercourse with the Spaniards which I mentioned to Your Lordship in my last Letter will show the Disposition of the Indians Gover. nour Tonyn informs me that said Indian is re. turned from the Havannah and that he and two or three Spaniards are Landed at the Old Fort of Saint Marks. I shall receive more par. ticular Intelligence from Mr Taitt as soon as

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he Knows where I am.

By the inclosed Copy of a Letter from Sir James Wright, it Appears that the Carolina & Georgia Congresses are sending Agents into the different Nations, this Will require the Ut-most Attention of all my Deputies; as doubtless the [p.510] principal / Bussiness of such Agents will be to debauch the Minds of the Indians, and to Alienate their affection from His Majesty and their Confidence in His Servants Nothing in my Power shall be Wanting to frustrate Machinations.

The dissaffected of Georgia & South Carolina have lately seized a Considerable quantity of Ammunition, which was on board a Ship from London for the Merchants & Indian Traders of this Province and Georgia — This is a Missfortune as the Indians were in such want of Ammunition, and Will enable the Malcontents to send in their Agents full handed: it is a disappointment to me as I intended sending a large supply to all my Deputies to keep up their Influence and weight when there may be great Occasion for an Exertion of them.

My Deputy in West Florida acquaints me that the Cohactaws and Cohickasaws are upon the best terms with His Majestys Subjects there,

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that he has lately had a Visit from the Chickasaw Leader who returned home extremly well satisfied. and he also Confirms the Account of the Action between Six Chactaws and 26 Creeks. I have the Honour of being with the utmost Respect

My Lord

Your Lordships Most

Obedient & most humble

Servt.

John Stuart

The Right honble

The Earl of Dartmouth &c. &c.

Endorsed St. Augustine 21st. July 1778. / John Stuart [A.S.H.]

Esqr. / (N. 28) / Rd 30th. Novr. / (4 Inclosures) / Entd.

[To W. H. Drayton, A. Middleton and five others]

Saint Augustine 18th. July 1775. [No 215]

Gent.

I am now to acknowledge the Receipt of Your Letters of 21st & 29th June by Express. In the former You are pleased to acquaint me, by Orders of provincial Congress, that I stand in a very unfavorable Light with the public, but You have not thought proper to acquaint me of what I am accused and Upon what Evidence the Public has conceived an Unfavorable Opinion of me; You must be conscious of the Impropriety of desireing me to Answer in my own Vindication, to a Charge which is not stated, and here I must beg Permis-sion to Say, that my Services to Your Province have merited very different Sentiments, than You tell me they entertain of me, and much better Treatment than I have received.

I am sorry that it is not in my Power to comply with Your Requisition, of sending You Copies of all my Correspondence on Indian Affairs with Administron, The Commander in Chief of His Majestys ffoces and my Deputies; but I hope it will be sufficient to assure You Most ffaith-fully, that I have always considered myself to be most effectually discharging my Duty to the King/ And ffulfilling His Intentions, when employed [No 216]

in securing the Friendship and Affection of the Indian Nations to His Majesty's Provinces, and in preventing as far as in my Power Jealousies arising from Incroachments and Mutual Violences; and the long Uninterrupted Tranquillity which your Frontiers have enjoyed, without any Expence to the Province during the past 13 Years of my Superintendancy evinces that my Endeavors have not been Unavailing; and this will appear in a clearer point of View, if You will contrast the State of Indian Affairs and the Expence to the province, during the above period, with that of the 13 preceeding Years.

I never have Received any Orders from my Superiors which by the most tortured construction could be interpreted to spirit up or employ the Indians to fall upon the frontier Inhabitants or to take any part in the Disputes between Great Britain and her Colonies, and I do not know that any part of my Conduct, thro' all the various Scenes of my Life, can fix upon me the Imputation of Cruelty or Inhumanity, or induce a Belief that I could Wantonly Use my Influence with Indians [A 515] to make them fall upon Innocent People / Yet such an Opinion has been most industriously propagated, altho it is absolutly impossible that it

could or can be Supported by any Evidence of the least Credibility; and I will venture to Say that every one and all of You do in Your Consciences believe the Charge to be ffalse, I therefore think I have a Right to call upon You as Men of Honor to efface the Impression it has made on the Minds of the People.

With Respect to the warm Expressions in my Letter to Col. Howarth, I cannot help thinking them in Some Measure justified, by Your being authorised by the Congress to tell me that I stand in a very Unfavorable Light with the public, what can have placed me in Such an Unfavorable Light; but calumnious Falsehoods which endangered my Life and Property? I know not the Authors and shall not repeat illiberal Epithets, You know what are Suitable to Such Characters

You are pleased to say that my Estate is a Security ffor the Behaviour of the Indians in the Southern Department, — It is disagreable that my all Should be held by so precarious a Tenure as their Behaviour, which will in a great Measure depend upon the Conduct of the Inhabitants of the Provinces. Yet You must allow that holding my /personal Safety and Life itself on such Terms (p.316) would be more So, His Majestys Service will necessarily detain me here some Months longer.

My little Estate in your province was purchased under the Protection of the Laws of my Country: I have always considered both Life and Fortune as pledged ffor my dutiful Obedience to the King and the Laws; as I am not conscious of having transgressed, I hope ffor that Security to my Property which is inseperable ffrom the Idea of a Virtuous and Policed Community. and as Power is now in Your Hands I doubt not but I shall find this Security ffrom Your Justice.

Your Letter of 29th renders it necessary for me to tell You, that some time before I left Charles Town, I had received Information of a Design to seize my person, and in Order to give a Colour to such a Step, a Report was industriously Propagated of my having sent to call down the Indians Immediatly. After my Removal ffrom Charles Town to my Plantations at Lady's Island, it was reported that in Consequence of my Orders, [N.Y. in N.C. &c.] 34 ffamilies on Frontiers / had been Murthered by the Cherokees; when I was in Georgia I had Information that Capt. Joyner and Mr Barnwell two Members of the Provincial Congress had returned to Beaufort, where, by the most defamatory Reports and Insinuations they endeavored to blacken

my Character & render me obnoxious to the Peo-
-ple; giving out that my having called down
the Indians was proved before the Congress, that
great Quantities of Arms and Ammunition were
shipped ffor me to Arm the Negroes and In-
-dians that it was Now discovered that I had
sold ffort Loudoun and was the Instrument of
getting the Garrison Massacred. And Capt. Joyner
shewd at the Public Muster. Field in St. Helena,
printed Bills containing the above and other false
Accusations. From thence they Went to Savan-
-nah and in the Night had a Meeting with the
Committee, of which St. James Wright gave me
Notice early the Next Morning and adviced me
to take Steps ffor the Security of my Person; I
accordingly prevailed upon Capt. Grant of the
St. John armed Schooner to land me here where
the Business of my Department called me, but
before I embarked I saw some of the Members
of the Committee and read / To them some parts [p. 3187]
of my Correspondence with my Deputies, which
they communicated to You; they candidly told me
that the People were much enraged and they
could not Answer ffor the Safety of my Person;
I then thought it high Time to provide ffor
my Safety and went on board the St. John armed

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Schooner at Cockspur — I have Since been informed that Two Boats were Sent down the River in Pursuit of me, and ffrom the Schomer I saw several armed Canoes said to be commanded by Capt Jonier & Mr Barnwell, who, before the left Beaufort gave out, that they were to receive and conduct me back to Carolina. The armed Schooner, however proceeded the Next Day ffor this place where I landed in a very weak Condition; and this, Gentlemen, You are pleased to call a precipitate Departure, altho I shall ffor ever consider it as a Most ffortunate Escape.

I am
Gentlemen
J. S —

(Irving ... Force's American Archives Fourth Series II. p. 1681.)

(P. 526) Endorsed To the Committee at Charles Town / 18th. July 1775. / In Mr Stuarts of 21st / July 1775. (No 28) / (No. 3 1)

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

[A 321]

Charles Town June 21st. 1775.

Sir —

By express order of the Congress now sit-
-ting we acquaint you, that you stand in a
very unfavourable Light with the Publick. your
Letter to Col: Haswarth dated the 16th. June, and
private Letters touching your Instructions to your
Deputy Mr. Cameron have been laid before the
Congress. We are therefore authorised to require from
you, a Copy of your Letter to Mr. Cameron rela-
-tive to the Information you had Received from
Genl. Gage, that certain Persons at the Northward
had been tampering with the Six Indian Na-
-tions; also a Copy of the Generals Letters, since the
Receipt of that Letter, as on the Subject of Indian
Affairs, you have written to Administration, to your
Deputies & their Answers.

[A 322] We cannot but intimate to you, that your
Personal Appearance in that Town will be more sa-
-tisfactory than your Letters in exculpation of your
Conduct; and that the Estate in your Possession,
stands as a Security for the good Behaviour of the
Indians in the Southern Department. —

To induce you the more readily to Comply,
the Congress assures you, that if it shall be in their
Power; they will vindicate you from all imputation

of Guilt on this Subject.

We have directed Mr De Saussure to com-pare the Copies you send us, with the Original Entries made in your Letter Book.

We likewise inform you, that there is no Evi-dence or appearance that Mr Drayton as you say, de-taind the Catawba Indians several Days or a Sin-gle hour after you dismiss'd them; neither has one of those Indians been at any / time before the Com-mittee nor have we the least Suspician that any Person in the Popular Cause here, has Practised upon a Savage; We have no Idea that Men of Candour & honour have been impos'd upon, by some unprincipled Villain who would Stick at nothing to gratify an un-manly Revenge, and render you obnoxious to the Peo-ple; but we have the greatest reason to think, you have been egregiously misinformed respecting all those Particulars

It would give sincere Pleasure to to the Members of the Congress to see you Vindicated in the fullest manner, but to none more than to —

Sir / Your Hble servants
Jam^{s} Parsons
John Lewis Gervais
Arthur Middleton
Wm Tennent
Thos Heyward Junr

The Honble / John Stuart Esq^{r} —

[R.3214] Endorsed Copy. / of the Committee of / Intelligence Letter / To / J: Stuart — / dated 21 June 1775 / In Mr Stuarts of 21st / July 1775 / (N^{o} 28) / (N^{o} 2)

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[p. 328]

Charles Town June 29th 1775

Sir

By direction of the Congress the Committee of Intelligence addressd the inclosd Letter to you in Georgia, but by reason of your departure from that Colony, it has been returned to us. We now send it to you at Augustine, that you may Know the Sentiments of this Colony &, regulate yourself thereupon. In addition to our last Letter, We cannot but say that your Precipitate Depar.ture from Georgia after you had an idea that you stood accusd here has not vindicated you in the eyes of the Public

We are Sir

Your most humb: servant

The Committee of Intelligence

Wm H: Drayton
Arthur Meiddleton
Wm Tennent
Roger Smith
Jam.s Parsons
Tho.s Heyward Jun.r
John Lewis Gervais

To The Hon.ble John Stuart Esquire.

[p. 328]

Endorsed Copy. / of the Committee of / Intelligence Letter / To / J. Stuart / dated 29 June 1775. / In Mr. Stuarts of 21st July / 1775. (No. 28) / (No. 3)

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LI[illegible]ESS

Charles Town June 29th 1775. [p.329]

Sir ~

It is a Piece of Justice I owe myself, to endeavour to free you from those Ideas which have been imposed upon you no less injuri.ous to me, than void of the least particle of truth: and which you have somewhat illiberal.ly expressed in your letter to Col: Howarth - The Committees letter to you, to which I would not allow my name to be added, does me public justice and vindicates me from aspersions which I am inclined to think arose only from mis.information: On my part, I declare to you, that while the Catawba Indians were in Town I did not even mention your name to them - I never carried one of them before any Committee, or mentioned to any person my conversation with them. I never Saw them but twice, when they were troublesomely intoxicated; & in such a situa.tion, I believe you think I have more pru.dence, than to lose my time in conversing with [p.330] them upon serious subjects, I confess my surprize that you should think me actuated against you, by revenge, You have not done any thing to Of.fend me personally; if you have any idea that your having contributed to cause my suspension

from Council, has impressed me with such sentiments — you are Sir entirely mistaken — The suspension placed me in a favourable point of view with the public, and brought an addition to my little reputation. — But Mr. Irvine was as active in that affair as yourself — he has no Idea that I feal any resentment against him. We behave to each other with the same civility we ever used; & in your absense both before and since I Know of your late Ideas of me, I have made it my business to endeavour to quiet the fears & apprehensions of your family — For this I do not arrogate any merit — I mention it only as one motive to persuade you, that I am incapable of acting otherwise, than as becomes a Gentleman.

I am Sir

Your most humble servt

Wm Hy Drayton

To the Honble

John Stuart Esqr.

[A 332] Endorsed (copy) / of Mr. Wm Hy. Drayton / To / Mr. Stuart. /
In Mr Stuarts of 21st / July 1775 (No. 28) / (No. 4)

[P 333]

St Augustine 18th July 1775

Sir —

Mucklefuss brought me your Letter of 29th June; and I am extreemely glad to be informed by yourself, that you had not accused me of any underhand dealing with Respect to the Ca.-tawba Indians: that they remained in Town several Days after I dismissed them, is a fact consistant with my own Knowledge; and I was told in my Family that they had at different times been sent for by you. — A charge against me of endeavouring to induce those Indians to take up Arms against the People of the Province, founded upon my having received a Talk from them, and given them the Kings Presents must have proceeded from a Most Malavolent design to injure me, and to render me obnoxious to the People, And must Naturally have excited in me that Resentment which caused some warm Ex.-pressions in my Letter to Lieut: Haswarth, which you have thought Proper to Apply to yourself; [p. 334] altho I never directly charged you with having injured me in that respect I Know not who it was that Propogated such an injurious & False Report. but illiberal as the Word Villain may appear to be, the Malicious Author of such

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a Calumny certainly Merits the Appellation.

The Scandalous Report which was so Industriously Propogated throughout the Province of having taken Steps to instigate the Cherokees and other Indians to fall upon the Inhabitants, is Equally false. Yet long before I left Charles Town I Knew that such a Report prevailed; and had been given to understand that you had establish-ed a belief of it in a Family with which my Daughter is since become connected: And altho it is simply impossible that you can have con-ceived a Belief of the Truth of such reports, from any Evidence worthy of the Least attention or Credit, Yet I have heard that a Motion was made by you in the Congress, to Pull my [p 335] House down but whatever truth / may have been in this, it is certain that two Members of the Provincial Congress, while that Body was sit-ting were most Assiduous in Beaufort and Sa-vannah to blacken and Asperse my Character by falsehoods invented for that purpose by which such a Rage was excited in the People as im-minently to endanger my life, and Oblige me in a very weak Condition to embark for this Place; altho you Sir, and other Gentlemen, are pleased to deem the Step Precipitate and surprised at it

I am Obliged to and thank you for any Politeness & civility shown my Family by you in their distressed Situation. I can hardly think that the Convulsive State of the times or even the Principles of ... Policy, if such prevailed, would justify rendering them the Objects of Popular Resentment and fury.

I am

Sir

Your most humble Servant

...

Endorsed (Copy) / of J: Stuarts Letter / To / Mr. [A 396]
Wm Hy: Drayton / In Mr. Stuarts of 21st. / July
1775 (. N° 28) / (. N°. 5)

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Extract Of a Letter from Mr. Taitt the 14th. April 1775 [P. 337]

The Pumpion King has just returned from Pallachokola where all the Head Men from the Cussitas to Tuffallies has been assembled at the Acorn Dance, he desires me to assure you that none of these headmen will give ear to any reports that may be brought into their Nation by any bad People but Still Keeps in remembrance the Talks that you gave him at Savannah and will hold you fast by the Arm, he says that all those Chiefs assured him that they would never give ear to any Talks brought from the Spaniards by Enochalee but would ap-
point a Person to go to hear what talk he may bring that they may let me Know to Acquaint you therewith, and whatever agrements the Cussi-
ta King, Chehaw Warrior and Pumpion King makes these Towns will agree to as for the Coweetas and the Towns below the forks they can-
not be answerable for, as non of their headmen was present

Endorsed Extract of Mr. Taitt's / Letter To J: Stuart. / In [P. 340]
Mr. Stuart's of 21st. July / 1775. (No. 28) / (No. 6)

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Savannah in Georgia the 6th. July 1775 [N.S.H.]

Sir

I was extremely glad to hear by Capt. Grant that You were much better than when you left Savannah. Things here have ever since gone on from bad to worse, and God knows what they may or may not do. [The Carolina Committee, I am informid by Mr. Holmes Mr. Gaulfins nephew have appointed three Persons to transact and manage all affairs whatever in the Creek Nation, and three others for the Cherokees.] — Lord William is arrived but I really pity him, and this is the Situation both he and I are in unsupported &c. and I think we have no bussiness here, and its most painfull for me to submitt, but what can I do.

I received a letter lately from Mr. Taitt dated the 24th. of May, wherein he hints among other things "That five days before 5 Fellows "sett out for the Cherokees in Order to complete "the remaining satisfaction, & expected they would "return by the end of the next moon. And that "all the Cheifs in both upper & Lower Creeks, "seemed willing to have the affair / settled by [p. 382] "putting the Murderers to death, & that they in

"general behave as well as can possibly be expected.
"Alss that 25 Creeks had been lately beat by the Chac-
"-taws near Mobille, having 3 killd & three wound-
"-ed, the Chactaws had 3 Wounded & got 2 Scalps"

[I have heard from Charlestown, that the Committee were sorry you had gone away, and intended to write you a letter, inviting you to re-turn, but this I rather doubt as it does not tally with the appointment mentiond, & which Mr Holmes assures me is fact.. and that he saw the appointment, & the Persons were his Uncle, Mr Gaulphin (who said he would not Act) David Zubly, a brother of the Parson, & Le Roy Hammond. I have this day wrote to Mr Stuart and let him know where you are, this this I presume you may have done already] —

I am

Dr.

[Endorsed] Endorsed (Copy) of Governor Wrights / Letter To J: Stuart / In Mr Stuarts of 21st / July 1775 (No. 25) / (No. 7) / dr.

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N° 30/ Saint Augustine 17th Septem.r 1775 (A.3511)

My Lord

I had the honour of writing your Lord.ship the 27th July .N° 29) since which I have not receivd any of your Commands.

In my Letter of 21 July .N° 28/ I had the honor of submitting to your Lordship the Motives which induced my comming here, and hopes of my Correspondence with Persons in Charles Town who stile themselves the Committee of Intelli.gence: which I sent to my Lord Dunmore and took the Liberty of requesting His Lordship to for:ward with his own Dispatches I hope they may have reached your Lordship's hands

In my said Letter I acquainted your Lordship with the Seizure of the Gun powder intended for supplying the Indian Trade by the Malecontents of Carolina and Georgia who fitted out and armed two sloops for that purpose, by which the/ Indians are Equally deprived of the means of (A.3512) Defending themselves from the Attacks of their Ene.:mies and of hunting by which they subsist, and have no other way of paying their debts or pur.:chasing necessaries. This gave the greatest Reason to apprehend a general Dissatisfaction, to prevent which as much as possible, I judged it necessary to purchase

what Ammunition I could, and send off Expresses to my Officers in the different Nations with talks calculated to quiet the fears and Jealousies, that by such a disappointment must be excited in the Minds of the Indians; accordingly I sent those of which I now submit Copies to the Creeks and Cherokees with Instructions to my Deputies in said Nations, to support their own Influence by all possible means, and be most attentive and allert in frustrating any Attempt to Debauch the minds of the Indians, and Seduce them from their Duty to His Majesty and their Confidence in him & His Officers at the same time Carefully to prevent their Committing any act of Hostility or Violence on the Inhabitants of the Provinces: Since which I (p 353) have received from Mr Tait a Letter dated first August. of which I submit a Copy.

[As the Competition for the Freindship of the Indians will be great, it will be a difficult and delicate Task for the Officers in the Indian Department, to keep them quiet and at the same time to Keep their own Influence with them in Opposition to the Machinations of the Emmissaries sent to seduce them; which renders it Absolutly necessary to Strengthen their hands, that they may be upon a footing with the Committee Agents;] for

which reason I have directed them to furnish them-
-selves with such Articles as they may want, from
Augusta in Georgia and west Florida; and I have
invited some of the principal Creek Chiefs to
come and Confer with me at this Place who must
return home well satisfied; this will unavoid-
-ably increase the Expences of the Department, Es-
-pecially as I can have no Access to the Indian
Presents in Store in Charles Town. I have writ-
-ten upon this Subject to General Gage and re-
-quested an Imprest of £1500 Sterling to be ac-
-counted for -

Mr Taitts Letter was brought by an Indian [Pr 350] /
-dian of some note in the Lower Creek Nation
he arrived here about the 25th Ultimate accom-
-panied by a Trader. His Business was to get
certain information concerning my safety as the
Indians were made Anxious about me by Mes-
-sages which they had received from Mr Gal-
-phin a Trader and one of the Committee agents,
the purport of which, as delivered by one Steddi-
-man one of his under Traders I submit to your
Lordship - The Indian wanted also clear informa-
-tion with respect to the seizure of their Ammuni-
-tion, as well as the Disposition of the provinces to-
-wards them — The Trader who came with him

brought 3 horses for a Supply of Amunition, which I procured for him, and thought the Opportunity favourable for Effacing the Jealousies of the Indians at least with respect to His Majesty's Officers — They went from hence the 27th ultimate, and I have re-ceived information that upon their return, they were intercepted by a party sent from Georgia to Way-lay them; their Amunition and my Despatches were taken from them; they have detained the Trader and sent him to Savannah, the Indian they suffered [A355] to proceed to his Nation. I dread / greatly to learn the Effects of his story upon his Countrymen. Should they take any Violent step upon it, altho the discon-tented party can have nobody to blame but them-selves, yet their Candor will charge it upon me.

The quantity of Gun powder seized off this Bar & Savannah is not less than thirty thousand pounds weight, this has laid me under the neces--sity of Applying to Governor Tonyn for some of the Ordinance Powder to be replaced by an Equal quan-tity from England as soon as possible, as I am not to expect any supply from the Merchants, as what is Expected out in Captain Renier's ship from London will share the fate of what came before, there being no Kings vessel at this place or Savan-nah to protect it

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The Steps which I have taken appeared to me to be the best for His Majesty's Service. I hope they will meet your Lordships Approbation. I have not been honoured with any late Instruction from your Lordship or the Commander in Chief of His Majestys Forces

/I have the Honour of being with the [illegible] utmost Respect

My Lord

Your Lordship's
Most obedient and
Most humble Servt
John Stuart

The Earl of Dartmouth, &c.a &c.a

Endorsed St Augustine / 14th Septembr 1776 / Mr Stuart / (N.o 30) / Rd. 11th Decembr / (4 Inclosures / Entd

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[Stev. Col
[Sept. 17. 1775]

[Benjamen Sleddyman carried up a Talk (1357)
in June last from Mr Gaulphin; He took an oppor-
tunity to deliver it when Mr Taitt was at Pensa-
cola. The purport of it was, that the day was now
at hand when Mr Gaulphin would fill the Su-
perintendants place in the Nation. that Mr Stuarts
end was near at hand it being determined that
he should die: and that they were not to ex-
pect many more talks from him. that the Ameri-
cans had quarrelld with the great King because he
wanted to withdraw the Trade from the Indians,
but that Mr Gaulphin took part with the Ameri-
cans, and did not doubt but they should oblige
the Great King to take their Talk. when they might
expect a good Governour and not such as they now
have at Savannah] that would join with him
in Keeping every thing straight. The Coussita King
answered by first desiring to know who sent Sled-
dyman up with the Talk & / whether it was writ- [1.358]
ten or Verbal. Being told that it was a Verbal
Talk from Mr Gaulphin. The Coussita King said,
We have long known the Superintendant, and held
him fast by the hand, since his beloved man has
lived among us we have not been confused with
lying Talks as We used to be; that he shoud not
think of throwing off his old Friends for the sake

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of New people who he did not know. That when he should be assured that Mr. Stuart and the Go-vernour were both dead, he would then look out for new Friends but not before. That he would ac-quaint the beloved man (Tautt) with the Talks which he had receivd althó he believed them to be False. That he was determined to pay no regard to any talk he should receive through any other Channel than the beloved man in the Nation, who had always told them the truth, and that he should perse-vere in following such advice as he should receive
[p.359] from the Superintendant and Governours / Through the beloved man as he had promised to Mr Stuart.

[p.360] Endorsed Substance of a Message / sent by Mr George Galphin / into the Creek Nation / 1. / In Mr Stuarts Letter of the / 17th Sept. 1775. N. 30

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[to John Stuart]

Little Tallassee 1st. August 1775.— [p.361]

Sir

In my last of 20th June I acquainted you of my intention to go to Pensacola, at which place I only stayd three days and returnid here the 7th Ulto and on the 15th received a full account of everything that had happend to you and of the riotous proceedings in Carolina & Georgia, and transmitted the same to Mobille by Express that returnd here 5 days ago Mr Stuart went off on the 23d Ulto for Pensacola after writing to me. I wish you was safe at that Place where you could be furnishd with every intelligence respecting this department sooner than at St Augustine.

I had a meeting at this place the 15th Ulto I acquainted the Indians with the situation of affairs in the different provinces and of what had befallen you, and I desired them to send to every Town in the upper Creek Nation to desire their people to keep at home and not to go near the settlements for fear of any accident happening by any of the mobs. They promised to do all in their power to keep their people quiet un-till they should see how matters would turn out, but they seemed exasperated at the Vir-ginians (as they call all the Northward people)

for stoping their Ammunition and fighting against the great King's people. They told me that if Ammunition could be got soon things might remain quiet among them, but if they could not be supplied, they could not answer for what [A 362] their young / people might do. I went to the Lower Creek Towns, and talkd to some of the principal Cheifs there, and beggd them to wait patiently for about two months as I was sure that in that time they might have a supply of Ammunition from St. Augustine, & an Indian lately arrived from that place assured them that the Vessel with Ammunition was safely arrived there before he came away, and likewise acquainted them that he had seen you there. but by some Traders that arrived yesterday at this place I am informd that the Ammunition is seizd at Savannah, if so God have mercy on them, for I am affraid it will be out of my power to save them. I am just now informd that the Carolina Committee have appointed, George Galphin, Leroy Hammond, & David Zubly, Superintendants of Indian affairs among the Creeks, & three others for the Cherokees, for which reason I have summond all the Cheifs of the upper Creeks to meet here the 8th. Inst. and will do everything

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in my power to preserve Peace here. I have already sent to Mobille to purchase about 400 lb of powder on account of the Merchts at Augusta, should that fail I mean to apply to Mr Stuart to borrow some from Governour Chester, and likewise some goods on your account, as I shall be much in want of a supply the Road to Augusta not being safe. I suspect there have been some private talks sent to the Lower Creeks by some of the New made Superintendants as there seemed a coolness among the headmen to me, not usual among them & that / Villam Sympeaffe refused to come to [p.363] the meeting. The Pompkun King observed there cool behaviour but could not tell the reason of it.

Escochabee is coming home, but brings no talks from the Spaniards at least has not yet told any and says that he got no presents from them, the Chiefs seeme to Laugh very much at him.

I expect an express every day to let me know the fate of the Powder, and should it be entirely kept from these people, they will certainly go in a body to demand it & a refusal will most certainly prove the ruin of Georgia. at present there is great murmering about it, and

if they can only get a supply of that article, I believe they will remain Neuter.

Most of the Traders except Goulphin's, are come up with Goods but not a pound of powder with any of them. I only came here this forenoon from the Lower Creeks, and mean to send Ennistisigus Down to them, as soon as the meeting is over here, on purpose to sound them as Thomas is not in the Nation at present

Yours &c.ª

[illegible] Endorsed Copy of a Letter from / Mr Taitt in the upper / Creek Nation dated at / Little Tallas. =see 1st August / 1775 / 2: / In Mr Stuart's Letter of the / 14th Sept. 1775 N.º 30.

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[p. 365]

St Agustine 30th August 1775.

To the Great Warrior of Chotte Attakulla-kulla, the Prince of Chotte, Ostenecca, Eccuy & all the ruling Chiefs & Warriors of the Cherokee Nation. —

Friends & Brothers. —

Mr. Cameron will without doubt have informid you of my having come to this place, and the reason of my so doing. Altho' I am now at a very great distance from you, Yet do I not forget you; neither shall I omitt letting you hear from me, when necessary for your good.

I was sorry to learn that the Gun Powder, which the Merchants at Augusta had written for to England, that they might supply your wants, and enable you to hunt and pay your debts, was seized and taken out of the Ship by some Mad People of Savannah. I was very uneasy upon your account & have got some ammunition at this place which I will send to Augusta as soon as I can be provided with Horses to carry it.

Brothers. I am sorry when I hear any bad News from your Nation which obliges me to put you in mind of your engagements at several different meetings. The murther of two of your

White Brothers in your Nation was not like Friends. You know what ought to be done upon the occa-sion. You have also among you, two Creek fellows, Houmachta & Sophia, who were obliged to fly from the Creek Nation, for having killd White people [N566] in Georgia / Yet you love and protect them altho their own people want to bring them to justice, according to agreement. This is not what I expect-ed from you. It is not fulfilling your engage-ment I am informd by the Creek Indians, that several of Your people were assisting the Shanese to Kill the White People in Virginia. I hope you will Stop such proceedings that all our Talks may be straight; & that I may not be obliged to be constantly complaining.

I am very sorry to think of the little regard paid to my advice and your own Interest, respecting your land which you compliment away to every white man that asks for it.

You have been constantly told by me, and admonishid not to treat or bargain for your land with any person but me. Yet You have given away all your Hunting Grounds which are be-tween the Cherokee river & the Ohio. You are constantly listening to Richard Pearis, who cheats you of your Land. If you go on at this rate

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where will your young People that are grow.
-ing up look for Deer to pay for Cloaths &
Ammunition.

Mr Cameron is with you, if you listen to his advice you will do right: He is the only Person that has a right to give you Talks. What I now tell you is for your own good, I have no Interest in it but to Prevent Your Ruin.

There is a difference between the White peo.
-ple of England and the White people of America, this is a matter which does not concerne you: they will decide it among themselves

I shall do all in my Power to Procure you Necessaries, but I expect that you will put con.
-fidence in the great King's Protection and Friend. (Indy)
-ship, and not listen to any talks Against him or his Governours and Officers. You have long known me I have always told you truth and given you good advice.

I have sent Mr Cameron among you to take care of Your Interest and advise you. Love him and hold him fast and let no bad People hurt him. While I live, you will have a Father and a Friend. If I should die You will find out that you have lost a friend.

Signed

J: S:

[A 368] Endorsed Copy of a Talk sent to the / Cherokee Nation 30th. Augt. 1775 / 3. / In Mr. Stuarts Letter of / the 17 Sept. N° 30

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To the great and small Medal Cheifs and [page] Rulers of the Cowetas, Tallapusses, Abeekhas, and Alibamous

Friends & Brothers

I send this Talk to be delivered by Mr Taitt and the Kings Interpreters, you will pay Attention to them and believe what they tell you

I was sorry to hear that the Gun Powder which the Merchants and Traders had sent for to England, that they might supply the Red peo-ple with a Necessary quantity for hunting and Defence against their Enemies had been seized on Account of a difference amongst the white People; it was on board a Vessel which arrived lately at Savannah. They have, I understand, sent you some of it — but not a sufficient quan-tity for Your necessities. I have been very un-easy for Your Distress, and have consulted with the Governors of Saint Augustine, Georgia and Charles Town how to relieve you. I have been able to get some Amunition and now send this Express to your beloved Man Mr Taitt to send down pack horses that they may be sent back loaded with Powder & Bullets, thereby to enable you to hunt and pay your Debts or defend your-selves against your Enemies —

I have written by this Opportunity to the Governor of Pensacola in Your behalf, requesting that you may get such a supply of Necessaries from thence and Mobille as they can afford — you will be convinced by this that I am attentive to your Interest and happiness and that it is the Great King's Intention and Orders that [p.3?a] you may / be protected and Supported, whilst your People behave well, and place your Confidence in him and his Officers as well as in the beloved Man sent Amongst you

You have known me for many Years and I never have deceived, it is my Particular duty to be attentive to your Interest and to see that Justice is done you, you may therefor rely upon what I shall at any time tell you by means of the believed Man Mr Taitt for neither he or I can have any Intention or Interest in deceiving you

There is an unhappy Dispute between the People of England and the white People of America, which however cannot Affect you, as you can be supplied with Necessaries from Pensacola Mobille and this place — where the people live like Brothers and enjoy Peace, and it is not the Intention of Either Party to hurt or Molest you — some of your People as I am informed met with recruit.

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:ing Provincial Officers in the back parts of Georgia
let not this alarm you, as nothing is meant by
it against you or any other Nation of Red People.
but to decide a Dispute Amongst the white People
themselves

While you continue in a Freindly Dispo-
:sition faithfully attached to the King's Interest
you shall frequently hear from me, and have
every and all the assistance I can give you

Signed J: S:

St. Augustine 15 August 1775—

Endorsed [A.07[illegible]2] Copy of a Talk sent to / the Creek Nation / from / St Augustine 15 August / 1775 / In Mr Stuarts Letter / of the 17th Sepr No 30 / (4)

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N° 31) Saint Augustine 25th Octo^r 1776 [A.374]

My Lord

Since I had the Honour of writing to your Lordship the 17th September, by the way of Virginia I have not been honored with any of your Commands

About the beginning of this month I received a Letter from General Gage of which I submit a Copy - in Consequence of the Orders contained in it I have sent my Brother Mr Henry Stuart by Water to Pensacola with the Instructions of which I also submit a Copy. I am confident that he will exert his utmost Abilities in discharging the Trust reposed in him.

I received satisfactory Answers to the Messages which I sent to the Different parts of the Creek Nation Agents from the Rebells at Savannah with some of the Gun powder which they had seized at that Place had reached the Nation some Days before my Express. The Indians were not Satisfied with the present which was insufficient to supply their Wants, and I have the pleasure to Acquaint your Lordship that they paid much more attention to my Message in in Consequence I expect to Meet about 4 or 5 hundred of them at Picolata in a few days and hope [A 374]

to be successfull in attaching them firmly to his Majestys Interest.

[The Person Employed by the dissaffected of Carolina and Georgia to counteract me in the Creek Nation is one George Galphin, who has for many years past carried on an Extensive Trade to the Lower Creeks, particularly the Cowetа Town:] but his weight and consequence has been greatly encreased by his having been for Several years past employed by Sir James Wright to Conduct whatever Business he had to transact in that Nation, particularly in negotiating for the late Cession of (p. 375) Land in that Province—/[his two Nephews who are also his partners in Trade, were sent in with the Talks of the Council of safety, as they stile themselves, and the present of Gun Powder above mentioned; they used all their Influence with the Indians to insult Mr. Taitt my Deputy and prevailed upon one of the Cowetа Chiefs to behave rudly to him at a public Meeting but he was immediatly reprimanded by the other Chiefs this was however sufficiently retaliated at a Meeting of the Upper Creeks a few Days after, where the Committee Agents were not suffered to sit Amongst the Chiefs and Head Men.] I mention this to your Lordship to shew the bad consequence, of employing Traders to

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transact the Bussiness of Government in the In-
dian Nations, and the Necessity of supporting the
Consequence and Influence of the Persons employ-
ed by His Majesty to Manage the Indian De-
partments which have been greatly deminished
by such Means and must continue to be so un-
till all Bussiness of / consequence with Indians
shall be conducted by them only and a more
extensive power and Jurisdiction over the Traders
be vested in them, this I humbly submit.

I have submitted it as my opinion to
General Gage, that in order to induce the Creek
Indians to Act heartily in His Majesty's Service
it will be necessary to Mediate a peace between
them and the Chactaws, for while they have such
a powerfull Enemy at their Backs they will not
willingly engage in distressing the Rebells; where-
as making a peace for them would be consider-
ed by them as a great obligation and I could if
Judged Necessary prevail with the Chactaws
and Chickasaws to Act in Conjunction with
them and the Cherokees. I wait with impa-
tience for His Excellency's Answer

I imagine that I shall be under the
necessity of going to West Florida, which is much more
Contiguous to the great Tribes, I am therefor making

the proper dispositions, and shall use my utmost
[p 377] Endeavors faithfully to discharge the trust reposed
in me, and to execute the Generals Orders I have
Accordingly contracted for a quantity of Ammunition
and other Necessaries to be delivered at Pensacola in
February next where I shall endeavour to dispose of
them to the best Advantage for his Majestys Ser-
-vice I have the Honour of being with the utmost
Respect

My Lord

Your Lordship's

Most obedient and most

humble Servant

John Stuart

The Earl of Dartmouth &c.

[p 380] Endorsed St. Augustine / 25 Oct. 1775 / Mr. Stuart /
(N°. 31) / Rd 20 Decr / 2 Inclosures / Entd

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[p. 381]

Boston 12th. September 1775

Sir

I have received several letters from you, the last dated the 20th. July with several inclo.sures. I should have wrote you long ago, but was not sure where to find you, and am now glad to find you are safe at St. Augustine. I think you have done very right not to trust your.self with the People of Carolina who in Turning Rebells to their King have lost all Faith.

You will now still have it in your power to hold a Correspondence with the Indians, which I beg you may improve to the greatest advantage, and even when opportunity offers to make them take arms against his Majesty's Enemies, and to dis.tress them all in their power, for no terms is now to be kept with them. The Rebells have themselves openid the Door; they have brought down all the Savages they could against us here, who with their Rifle men are continually firing on our advanced Sentries.

By employing the Indians you will like.wise assist in Securing the Garrison you are now in &. in short no time should be lost to distress a People who have acted so wantonly rebellious.

Gov.r Tonyn writes me that he expects a Ship

from England with ammunition, if she is safe in
you will be enabled to supply the Indians
[N.S.P.] with what they want / and consequently bind
them more firmly to you; and for which purpose
you are to procure what necessaries you can,
be the expence what it will; for every exertion
must now be made on the side of Government

I am &c.ª

Signed Thomas Gage

[N.S.P.] Endorsed Copy of a Letter from General Gage to
Mr Stuart dated / at Boston 12 Septemr 1775

In Mr. Stuart's of
25. Octo. 1775 ———

[John Stuart to Henry Stuart]
S. & B. Jan. 27. 1911.

St. Augustine 24th. October 1775 [p. 305]

Sir

As you have undertaken to proceed from Hence to Pensacola & to Transact Bussiness of the greatest importance to his Majestys Service, and which I would not trust to any but a Person in whose good Conduct and Fidelity I have the Utmost confidence,

I am to desire that upon your arrival in West Florida you will wait on Governour Chester, and deliver into his hands my letter. —

That You send immediatly to Charles Stuart and Communicate to him the purport of General Gages Orders to me; And let him know my Ideas relative to the Necessity of Making a Peace, between the Creeks & Chactaws, concerning which I wait for General Gage's Orders, having submitted that matter to his Excellency: in the meantime no steps are to be taken to widen or keep open the Breach.

I desire he may write fully to Mr. John Mackintosh and direct him to dispose the Chickasaws to act when required either in conjunction with any other Tribe or seperately: That Persons of Ability and known attachment to his Majestys interest of said nation be employed to form Parties

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among the different Tribes, to Join as Shall direct in support of His Majesty's government and dis. tressing his Enemies.

Afterwards You'l proceed to the Upper Creek Nation, and in like manner communicate the General's Ideas to Mr. Taitt, and with him take such Steps as may appear best calculated to dis. tress the Enemies of Government. You will apply in Private to Emistisico & the Second man of the little Tallassees, and endeavour by every practicable means to engage them to act in His Majesty's Ser. vice, & I shall see whatever Promises You shall think Necessary to make fullfilld —

(p. 396)

/In Publick let Your Talks in general be tending to confirm the Confidence of the Indians in His Majesty and his Servants, to convince Them that their want of Trade and Amunition, is entire. ly owing to the bad Designs of the Rebells; That by espousing their Party the Indians must con. tinue poor and deprived of the means of subsis. tance; Whereas by attaching themselves to the King's Interest they will find plenty of all necessaries pour. ing in upon them from Pensacola & St. Augustine. In Private, That Emistisico will draw to himself the greatest honour, by Exerting himself in the King's cause, and endeavouring to bring his Rebellious White

Subjects to Reason & a sense of their Duty, and he may be assured Of every Mark of distinction or favour that I can conferr on him.—

You will get proper persons employed to counteract the Committee Agents in the Lower Creek Nation, and endeavour to engage such Headmen as Mr Taitt can confide in to Transact that business

After You shall have finishd in the Upper Creeks, You will proceed to the Overhill Cherokee Nation, And first endeavour to secure a good Interpreter and convene such of the Traders as are attachd to Government whose assistance you must endeavour to secure.— If Mr Cameron should be in the overhill Towns upon your Arrival there, You will of Course Consult and Act Jointly with him and give him the Necessary information of the Generals Ideas & Orders to me. You will with him appoint a meeting of the Chiefs; And by the same Arguments as above Mentiond engage them to act in his Majesty's service. If Mr Cameron should not be in that part of The Nation, You will immediatly send for him, and with him proceed through the Nation. All Agents & Emissaries, from the Rebells must if possible be driven out of the Nation, and no Terms kept with them.—

[A 387]

/To give you the greater weight & influence I have procured you a quantity of Ammunition, and Governour Chester will assist you with as much as he can to be distributed to the Upper Creeks & Cherokees. & I give you a Letter to Messrs. Millar & Swanson of Pensacola who will furnish you with whatever you shall have occasion for. I leave the rest to your good sense and discretion, recommending to you to keep me regularly informd.

You will understand that an indiscriminate attack upon the Province is not meant but to act in the execution of any concerted Plan and to assist His Majesty's Troops & Friends in distressing the Rebells & bringing them to a Sense of their duty

(Lii)

[A 388] Endorsed Copy of Instructions to /Mr Henry Stuart.

In Mr Stuarts
No. 31.
of 25 Octr. 1775.